Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Friday 10 Mar 2023 until 23:59 on Saturday 11 Mar 2023

Forecast Issued on Friday 10 Mar 2023 at 02:28

Confidence: High becoming Medium in details from Sunday.

Headline for Friday 10 Mar 2023: A lovely cold and bright day after overnight snow. Winds easing. Winter hazards.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 10 Mar 2023

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales Low Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** High Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Low Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** Low Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Light snow	Cloudy	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability					
30%	10%	10%	<05%	<05%	<05%

Forecast for Friday 10 Mar 2023

Weather: Overnight snow soon dying out with sunny spells developing during the morning, although still the risk of the odd snow shower, most likely over the Eastern and Far Eastern Fells. Mainly dry with bright, sunny or clear spells during the afternoon and evening, although isolated light snow showers still possible.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 30% rising to 90% during the morning.

Low cloud and visibility: Extensive, base 600m or less, soon lifting and breaking above the summits during the morning. Visibility poor at first in light snow, becoming mostly very good or excellent during daylight hours and though the evening.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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Forecast for Friday 10 Mar 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	34/40 NE	25/30 N	15/20 N	13/17 NW	12/14 W	11/14 SW	11/14 W
600	24/29 N	19/24 N	12/16 N	11/16 NW	10/13 W	9/13 W	8/12 SW
300	7/25 N	8/20 N	6/15 N	6/14 NW	5/11 W	5/11 W	4/10 W
Valley	9/27 N	10/23 N	6/15 N	6/14 NW	6/11 NW	4/9 NW	3/8 NW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-6/-16	-6/-15	-5/-12	-4/-10	-4/-10	-4/-10	-4/-10
600	-4/-12	-4/-11	-2/-8	-1/-6	-2/-8	-2/-7	-3/-7
300	-2/-5	-1/-5	1/-2	2/-1	-1/-4	-1/-4	-1/-4
Valley	0/-4	1/-3	3/0	4/2	2/-0	1/-1	1/-1
Freezing Level*	00m	100m	100m	200m	00m	00m	100m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Sun glare possible off the snowpack along with ice. Some limited thaw from mid-morning to mid-afternoon then refreezing. Freezing level around 600m early afternoon. Strenuous walking in any deeper areas of snow.

Forecast for Saturday 11 Mar 2023

Weather: Clear and cold overnight with a moderate or severe frost, perhaps the odd freezing fog patch. Bright with some morning sunshine, but upper cloud increasing with outbreaks of snow possible from late afternoon. The snow becoming heavy at times in the evening with blizzard and whiteout conditions at height, although it could well turning much milder by midnight with snow giving way to heavy rain.

Maximum wind: South or Southeast 15 to 20mph gusting 30mph around the middle of the day, increasing 30 gusting 40mph later

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 90% lowering 20% or less in the evening.

Low cloud and visibility: No significant cloud at first, becoming extensive, base 600m or less, in the evening. Visibility very good falling poor or very poor at times in the evening.

Temperature:
Valleys: Minus 7 Celsius rising to plus 3 Celsius
At 800m: Minus 2 to Minus 6 Celsius, rising to around Plus 2 Celsius very late in the day.
Freezing level: All levels, rising to around 600m early afternoon, lowering to most levels early evening, but near or above the summits by midnight.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date Thursday 9 March Location: Helvellyn summit at 1025 Temperature -5.3C Maximum wind speed 31.1mph Wind Chill -15.8C Average wind speed: 25mph. Full report. A dry start with conditions deteriorating by mid-morning. Winds increased and precipitation fell as light snow down to low elevations making conditions in the high fells particularly challenging with severely reduced visibility.

During the morning snow distribution was very similar to yesterday with a thin cover of snow down to 750m on shady north-facing slopes, whereas south-facing slopes were almost entirely snow free.

Ice is also present on paths in some areas, particularly in and around drainage lines and this is now being covered by fresh snow making it difficult to spot. The ground is also well-frozen in many places. Conditions changed rapidly during the morning and snow began to settle down as low as 300m, and further snow is forecast this evening and overnight.

The Helvellyn edges are in winter condition and Swirral edge, in particular, has plenty of compressed snow/ice making it very slippery particularly in its upper reaches. Anyone heading out tomorrow should anticipate and be prepared for more snow and Ice than described here. The windchill (feels-like) temperature was around -16ºC today and is likely to be similar tomorrow. Full winter clothing (warm and waterproof) including hats gloves, and equipment including a map, compass, and headtorch are all essential. Microspikes and ski goggles are also recommended for comfort and for navigating safely in challenging conditions. For anyone attempting steep and exposed routes such as Swirral and Striding edge, an ice axe and crampons may well be essential equipment tomorrow and should be carried in anticipation of this.

Issued at: 02:28 on Fri 10 Mar 2023

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